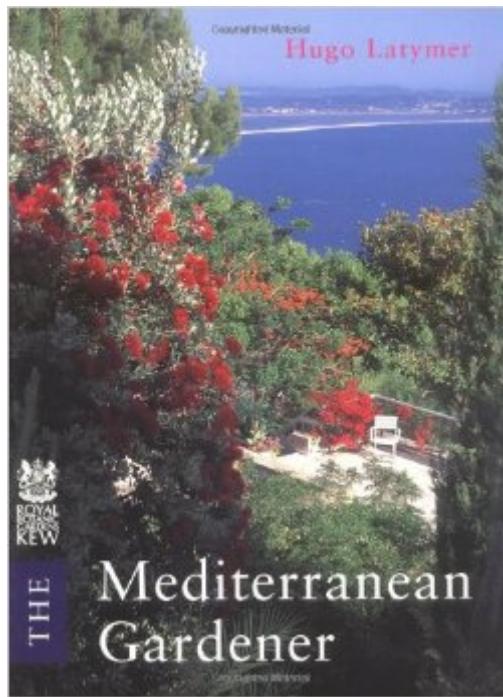


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# The Mediterranean Gardener



## Synopsis

Hugo Latymer reveals the rich diversity of trees, shrubs, flowering plants and cacti that flourish in regions where summers are hot and dry, winters mild and wet. His knowledge and enthusiasm are communicated in descriptions of more than 300 plants, most of them readily obtainable: Chinaberry trees with fragrant lilac flowers in spring, dark green twisted carobs, beautiful red-flowered climbing lilies. Many of the subjects are illustrated in superb color photographs. Coded information at the head of each entry enables gardeners to make the best choices when confronted with the bewildering array of plants on offer. Whether your garden is a patio of a few square metres or several hectares on a terraced hillside, you will find a wealth of ideas for colorful and interesting plants and a variety of garden designs. The author draws on 20 years' experience of gardening on the island of Mallorca.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book is an absolute delight, as much for the prose as for the glorious photographs. As well as recommendations for planting in various Mediterranean conditions, the author gives splendid professional advice on local problems such as water shortage, salt air damage and so on. If you have had failures in your ex-pat. garden through trying to acclimatise plants which only thrive in more northerly regions, this book will help you never again to make those mistakes. No-one should be without it; I have two of them. Yvonne Gregson.

The most valuable thing about this book for me was the extensive plant list which contained good

information about size, growing speed, minimum temperatures, water need and descriptions of the plant itself sometimes including information about propagation. The list is divided in different chapters for trees, shrubs, climbers, palms, cacti and succulents, perennials and annuals which made it very easy to use while planning a garden. The information chapters are mainly oriented on style and design though even some chapters about soil and water are included which contain valuable knowledge.

Can't beat this for our climate (So. Calif. by the beach) for trustworthy info. Hugo is dead-on! We own zillions of gardening books and this is by far my personal favorite.

While South Central Texas (San Antonio) isn't a coastal area (and isn't exactly a "moderate" climate, either), Latymer's book has proven to be a good resource for our area. The pictures helped me to visualize what could be, and the plant lists have been invaluable for choosing plants. While I've always loved "digging in the dirt," no one ever would have accused me of being an accomplished gardener. But that didn't stop me. Thanks to the inspiration I found in Latymer's book, I've been working steadily at replacing my grassy front yard with a Mediterranean-style water-wise garden. And now, many of my neighbors are interested in doing the same. They think my yard is gorgeous. And so do I.

This book is a good reference for moderate coastal areas (we are on the Palos Verdes Peninsula in So. Cal.) The reference area (2/3 of the book) is well organized with lots of photos. Latymer has divided Mediterranean plants into sections on trees, palms, shrubs, etc. The reader can look at a choice of plants for a particular application, which are grouped together.

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